



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: Gregory J. Rajala et al.
Serial No.: 08/382,108
Filed: January 31, 1995
For: DISPOSABLE GARMENT AND
RELATED MANUFACTURING
EQUIPMENT AND METHODS

Docket No.: 11,128
Group: 3408
Examiner: J. Chapman
Date: October 31, 1996

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**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)
Before Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance
Fee**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449.

French Patent No. 2,177,425 discloses Disposable Garments Having Elasticated Borders.

Disposable garments e.g. briefs are formed by providing aligned patches of adhesive on an advancing continuous web; cutting the web with a profiled cutter roller to define apertures and applying elastic tapes under tension along the edges of the apertures by using guides associated with the cutter roll; securing the tapes to the web by preferably melting thermoplastic adhesive on the tapes using heaters associated with guides; similarly applying an elasticated tape to one edge of the web to define a waist band; folding the web over longitudinally; and cutting the web transversely in the region of the aligned adhesive patches thereby cutting out a blank and subsequently secure the adhesive patches together to form side seams of the briefs. The elastic tapes are applied before the web is cut transversely to form the blanks, thereby eliminating the necessity of handling and aligning each blank separately and providing a more economic process.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

A completed modified PTO-1449 form listing the documents to which the Examiner's attention is directed and copies of those documents are presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), please charge the \$230.00 fee for filing this Information Disclosure Statement to Kimberly-Clark Corporation deposit account number 11-0875. Please charge any other prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Corporation deposit account number 11-0875. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted to aid the Examiner in charging the fee.

The undersigned may be reached at: 414-721-2985.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. RAJALA ET AL.

By: Mark L. Davis
Mark L. Davis
Registration No.: 34,574

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Nanette A. Dotts, hereby certify that on October 31, 1996, this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: Nanette A. Dotts
Nanette A. Dotts